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Keep in the Middle of the Road.

Equal Rights to All; Special Privileges to None

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THE MASSES.

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All Reforms.

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MAY 21,

GEMS FROM THE NEW ERA.

Real prosperity and monopoly cannot dwell in the same country.

The man who votes for systems whereby the "public" is robbed ought to remember that he is part of the public.

Every voter is a sovereign, and he is responsible to the country for the manner in which he exercises his sovereignty.

The man who refuses to do anything to overcome a public wrong thereby becomes a participant in that public wrong.

The man who casts his ballot at the dictate of a party boss is a betrayer of his country and an enemy to the community.

Farmers cannot make themselves rich by increasing their crops, so long as money-mongers can manipulate the price of those crops.

The preacher who is afraid to preach politics usually has more regard for the welfare of his pocket-book than for the welfare of his people.

God gave the earth to the "children of men," but some corporations and syndicates seem to think that they are "the children of men."

When politicians begin to talk tariff as remedy for evils caused by monopoly, they must be working on the principle that "like cures like."

A surplus of money in the banks in the great centers is of little advantage to the country merchant who cannot get any money from his customers.

Unqualified and unlimited private ownership of land implies the right of those who own the land to say to the rest of mankind, "Get off the earth."

If the "people" cannot be trusted to make their own laws and run their own government, where shall we find men to make laws and run the government who are not "people"?

The trouble with many of the remedies proposed for labor troubles is that they do not go to the root of the trouble, which is interference by monopoly with the right of man to employ himself.

Plenty of Men for the Army.

The war department has closed a number of recruiting offices in several cities where posts are located in the vicinity. It is held that these stations are capable of enlisting all the men needed for the service, and that more men apply than are needed. In no time within the memory of the oldest officer of the army was material for the service so easy to secure, of such splendid material and at so little expense. —Military note in Kansas City Times.

The above item is easily explained. With so many men out of employment, it is an easy matter for Uncle Sam to get all the soldiers he wants. True, these men receive but a pittance as soldiers, but they prefer that to starvation. It is thus that the Goulds and their ilk are enabled to hire one-half of the people to kill the other half.

BISHOP WARREN (M. E.) says it is not enough to vote right one day in the year. Nay, verily; but if our bishops were even up to that point, there would be a rattling of bones in the enemy's kingdom. —Corner-Stone.

INGALLS IS OUT.

CUTS LOOSE FROM THE MONEY BARONS' LEAD.

Denounces Attempts to Crush Greenbacks.

RIPS DINGLEY'S BILL.

And Viciously opposes the Proposed Tariff.

CINCINNATI, May 13.—The Enquirer prints the following letter from John J. Ingalls:

"ATCHISON, KAS., May 10, 1897.

"It is obvious that if the greenback treasury notes, silver certificates and other paper obligations of the government are to be presented for redemption in gold, redeemed in gold, reissued and presented again for redemption in gold indefinitely, it will be necessary to have surplus revenues in gold or to sell more bonds for gold. "There needs no ghost, my lord, come from the grave to tell us this."

"As an economic proposition, it does not make much difference whether the people are taxed to obtain the surplus revenue or taxed to pay the bonds issued, to enable the gamblers and brigands to plunder the nation by methods that make Monte Carlo respectable.

"It seems incredible that the ink is yet wet upon a contract by which President Cleveland transferred the protection of the treasury and the defense of the public credit to a foreign syndicate which agreed, for a profit of \$8,000,000, to restrain their own depredations upon the gold reserve till the following October. Any private business conducted on such a scheme would consign its proprietor to the bankruptcy court, the almshouse or the penitentiary, according to the caliber of his lawyer or the disposition of the jury.

"The fatal infirmity of Mr. Dingley's theory is the assumption that the executive has the right to hold the greenbacks in the treasury, either to exchange for gold or for the purpose of bonds. The greenbacks, limited to \$346,618,016, were intended as permanent and constant addition to the legal tender currency of the country, and any policy which has for its object their temporary or final withdrawal is without warrant in law.

"Another defect in the hypothesis of Mr. Dingley is his assertion that the retention of the greenbacks of the treasury would not contract the currency because the gold for which they were exchanged would enter into and become a part of the circulating medium of the country. Everybody knows to the contrary.

"Practically, gold is never in circulation. It is not available in the daily transactions of wage-earners because it is not susceptible of subdividing into coinage of small denominations. In placid times of tranquil and contented prosperity the people prefer paper and gold remains in unsought seclusion. When distrust and apprehension prevail, when credit is impaired and confidence shaken, then gold is hoarded or transferred in bulk from kingdom to kingdom, to be buried in the vaults of the Jews, or to replenish the treasuries of monarchs.

"The statement of Dingley emphasizes the declarations of those who framed the financial plank in the St. Louis platform, and of their Democratic allies, that "sound money" means ultimately the retirement of the greenbacks, the degradation of standard silver money, and the transfer of the legal tender function of gold coin alone. The volume of the currency should have no more to say about the number of dollars to be issued than about the number of hats to be made or the number of bushels of wheat to be ground or the number of cattle and hogs to be raised.

"It should retain and assert such power as would punish counterfeits and insure security, but the amount of money should depend on the requirements of business, and not on the caprice of congress, the edicts of rapacious syndicates, or the compliant vagaries of a renegade secretary of the treasury.

"All the people of the United States are un-

reservedly in favor of honest money and the maintenance of public faith, credit and honor. Many of them believe in the principles of a tariff for revenue and for protection. But any measure whose justification is the contraction of the currency, or which will reduce the price of wool, hides or other raw material by unrestrained competition, and increase the cost of coats and shoes by heavy duties on the manufactured product, will not be received with unmeasured enthusiasm by the Republican farmers of the Mississippi valley."

What is the Labor Exchange?

We clip the following from Progressive Thought, a Labor Exchange paper published at Olathe:

It is an organized, industrial, beneficiary institution, which can be established in branches at any point where a number of people wish to co-operate for mutual benefit, and the laws of no civilized country will interfere with its equitable transactions.

Its first object is to endeavor to employ the idle and prevent them from being swindled by speculations or becoming a burden to themselves or society, and it provides plans or means by which the products of labor can be fairly exchanged so that each wealth-producer may receive an equitable reward for his services to society.

It provides its own money, or medium of exchange, to the full need of the community in which it is established. It does away with rents and speculations, and soon proves the grandest blessing ever introduced by man in any age of the earth's known history.

It prepares the way by which all true reforms can be brought to the front, while none can become a complete success without its aid.

This system will quickly settle all the argument and controversy, between the different agitators, of ideas as to how better conditions may be established, by a practical demonstration of facts.

So far, it has fully proven to every sincere investigator that it is the best and only method by which justice can be established for all classes. It does not interfere with any one's notions on religion or politics, and gives every one full individual freedom in all personal matters.

Remember that as long as you do not thoroughly understand that every word of the foregoing short assertions are truths, so long you do not fully comprehend the magnitude of this system of operation, and the best thing you can do is to make every possible effort to comprehend its force.

In a long article on "How to consolidate our forces" in Kansas, the Independent, of Topeka, a silver Republican paper of no little merit, urges that the committees of all the silver forces in the state call joint primaries and let the people unitedly nominate their tickets (and they could also nominate delegates to state, judicial and congressional conventions), and further says:

If those with whom we are personally acquainted are a fair sample, the Populists of Kansas, as a whole, are intelligent and honorable men. They are also very much in earnest in their desire to change present conditions for the better. They know that this is impossible until a majority of the voters are welded together into a homogeneous party; and the thinkers among them are aware that the only way to construct such a party is to get the voters together, consulting each other, acting unifiedly and learning to esteem each other as brothers and soldiers in the great emancipation army.

"The trouble about protective tariff is not so much that the consumer pays the tax that goes into the treasury," says the Baltimore News, "but that he pays the like tax on the home manufactured article, and this tax does not go into the treasury, but is handed over to the manufacturers. There is no way in which the tariff can serve the purpose of protection except by raising prices, and no amount of juggling with figures can possibly show that it does protect the manufacturer without raising prices." —Paola Times.

HER BABY DIED.

BY A MAN WITHOUT A SOUL.

Walking out each summer ev'ning
Through the poorest streets of town,
Glancing through a narrow window,
Where a faded wife sits down,
Holding in her arms a baby—
Ah! so pale and hungry-eyed;
Stained are cheeks of child and mother,
Where the bitter tears had dried.

She's the wife of an engraver,
Better workman ne'er was seen;
But of late he is supplanted
By a cheaper art machine.
Nowhere can he find employment;
New machines drive him away;
And the faded wife and baby
Grow more gaunt and pale each day.

Last week, passing by that window,
That poor mother sat alone;
When I asked her of her baby
She could only weep and moan.
But a neighbor woman answered—
She, too, pale and hungry-eyed:
"Pass on, stranger; don't disturb her;
Her poor child of hunger died!"

Loudly came the sweet tones ringing
From the great cathedral bell—
Seemed to me like some great demon
Marching in this hell
Of human hopelessness and hunger,
Where poor women, gaunt and wild,
Sit beside a little coffin,
Weeping o'er their poor starved child.
—The Coming Nation.

A NEW and nobby method of furnishing work for the workingman comes from Sparrow's Point, Maryland, where the mills of the Maryland Steel Co. are located. The paper says that 4,000 people "will be made glad" by the resumption of work which is conditioned on the employees of the mill paying for the repairs needed to put the plant in condition to be operated. The company says it can't afford to pay out \$50,000 for this purpose. It is a poor, poverty-stricken company that has only been receiving \$1,000 per day from the steel trust for letting its mills stand idle. No, the poor company couldn't stand it, so after putting their beloved employees to work at reduced wages, they inform the opulent, over-dressed worker, who has also been idle the past three years, but without \$1,000 per day, that the employees must pay the cost of putting the mill in shape to run. It only costs \$50,000—the company can't afford it—the employees can. This Socialism must be a nightmare—the workingmen don't need protection—its the bankers, the millionaires and manufacturers who are facing starvation.—Coming Nation.

THE decks are being cleared for action on the money question. The gold reserve is pulling its freight for grand old England. About the time the tariff bill is finished the treasury reserve will be depleted—a wide-spread panic will hit the country and nothing can save us except to retire the greenbacks, issue \$500,000,000 bonds and base a national bank note circulation upon these bonds. This will be done all right; don't you forget it, either. The people will then pay two interests upon every dollar in circulation—one interest upon the bonds, another upon the national bank note which they borrow from the good, generous, patriotic banker. The people haven't been able to pay one interest upon the gold dollar—just how they are going to pay two is beyond comprehension. The Americans are already slaves—this step either puts them near serfdom, peasantry and peonage, or it brings them nearer to a conflict for freedom. Let the dance go on.—Coming Nation.

If the greenbacks are no longer to be paid out after the whole issue shall have been received for gold, the great contraction of the currency will make times still harder than now. Between tariff tinker and vicious financiers the outlook is exceedingly serious.—Paola Times.